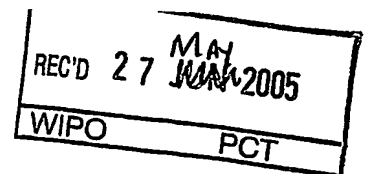



# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference p58694f_wo		<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Form PCT/PEA/416	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/000006	International filing date (day/month/year) 05.01.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 07.01.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC E04B5/40			
Applicant CORUS UK LIMITED			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand  21.07.2004		Date of completion of this report  30.05.2005	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized Officer  Demeester, J  Telephone No. +31 70 340-1052	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/GB2004/000006

**Box No. I Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
  - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
  - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

**Description, Pages**

1-6 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-14 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/1 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
  - ☐ the claims, Nos.
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
  - ☐ the claims, Nos.
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/GB2004/000006

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-14
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

Re Item V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following document/s/:
  - D1: GB-A-1 361 448 (PRINS NV;HOLLANDSE BOUWCOMBINATIE HOLLA) 24 July 1974 (1974-07-24)
  - D2: US-A-5 809 721 (ANTROPIUS JEAN DANIEL) 22 September 1998 (1998-09-22)
  - D3: US-A-5 056 348 (GRAY CHARLES R ET.AL) 15 October 1991 (1991-10-15)
  - D4: EP-A-0 129 416 (ROBERTSON UK LTD H H) 27 December 1984 (1984-12-27)
  - D5: GB-A-2 195 680 (QUIKSPAN CONSTRUCTION LIMITED;UNIV SOUTHAMPTON) 13 April 1988 (1988-04-13)

- 2.1. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 (and 2) does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):  
a profiled steel decking (1, fig. 1) which comprises a roll formed steel sheet defining several crests and troughs (2) separated by inclined webs (3) and having boundaries between the webs (3) and the crests (2) which are radiussed to define corners each having a smooth curvilinear profile.

The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore differs from this known profiled steel decking in that **the radius of said corners is between 15 and 30mm.**

The problem to be solved by the present invention may therefore be regarded as selecting a radius which does not lead to a too high deformation and weakening of the corner zones.

The selected radius range of claim 1 (and claim 2) cannot be considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), as the values of said ranges are obvious for the man skilled in the roll forming of steel sheets. The skilled person would, without the

exercise of inventive skill, consider selecting a radius value within said ranges in order to control the deformation of the corner zones.

Moreover, D2 (fig. 1A and 1B) shows a detail of the corner zone of such a steel decking and D3 (fig. 15 and 16) discloses the roll forming process of such a steel decking. From these documents it is clear that the corner zones of such a steel decking have a smooth curvilinear profile. There is no indication that the radius ranges disclosed in claim 1 and 2 fall outside the radii which a skilled person would consider when producing such a roll formed steel sheet.

- 2.2. Dependent claims 3-14 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step, see documents D4 and D5 and the corresponding parts cited in the search report.

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(J. Demeester)